



Brownfields 2004 Grant Fact Sheet

Wiyot Tribe, Table Bluff Reservation, CA

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, the President signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The Wiyot Tribe was selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. A federally recognized tribe, 92 of the Wiyot Tribe's 450 enrolled members live on the Table Bluff Reservation. Most of the rest reside in surrounding communities, including the nearby city of Eureka (population of 30,000). The tribe suffers from 29 percent unemployment and a 36.7 percent poverty rate, compared to 5.2 percent unemployment and a 12.9 percent poverty rate in Humboldt County. Indian Island is a spiritual center for the tribe and the site of the former village of Tuluwat, which was the site of a yearly Tribal World Renewal Ceremony. Inhabitants of the village were brutally massacred in 1860, and as a



Cleanup Grant



\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Wiyot Tribe for a brownfields cleanup grant. The grant will be used to clean up a contaminated dry dock and ship repair facility in Tuluwat Village on Indian Island. The dry dock was in operation from 1870 until 1990, and the 1.5-acre property is contaminated by paint, solvents, metals, petroleum products, and pesticides. Following remediation, the site will be restored as part of the Wiyot Tribe's sacred Tuluwat Village site and dance grounds.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 9 Brownfields Team

415-972-3188

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/brown/>

Grant Recipient: Wiyot Tribe, Table Bluff Reservation, CA
707-733-5055

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

result, the Wiyot Tribe lost a connection to much of its cultural heritage. Once the site is cleaned up, the tribe plans to restore the ecology of the island and hold a World Renewal Ceremony there again, for the first time in 140 years.